

Regarding claim 7, in Takahashi, under zero torque condition, one half of each of apertures 28, 28' is covered by spokes to provide equal values of capacitance (See Col. 4, lines 41 - 48).

Regarding claim 8, in Takahashi, when applied torque is a maximum in one rotational direction the apertures of one ring are covered and the other ring apertures are minimally covered, with applied maximum torque in the opposite direction the opposite covering of apertures occurs (See Cols. 4 and 5, lines 62 - 68 and 1 - 20).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 7/3/03 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. In response to applicant's arguments that the references do not disclose disks forming a cage for the dielectric disk, measurement of torque or a steering shaft with a torsion bar, or capacitor plate rings, it is the examiner's position that the invention of Montagu et al, is applicable to capacitive transducers employed with torque motors (See Col. 3, lines 16-18), the invention of Kovacich et al, is drawn to a torque sensor 10 employing a piezoelectric element 12 which is capacitively coupled via a rotary capacitor to an external detection circuit (See Col. 2, lines 2 - 7) and the conductive electrodes 142, 146 are in the form of discs or plates caging a torsion member 132 and a torsionally strained element (a transducer subassembly) 136, the member is mounted for rotation with a first half of a shaft 132 (See Col. 5, lines 1 - 13, See Fig. 7), and the invention of Takahashi is cited to illustrate known apertured conductive disks, which constitute 231, 232, thus the references still stand.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).